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**Belinda Gallagher talks about the joys of cultivating a gorgeous garden in the Haliburton Highlands.** **See page 12**


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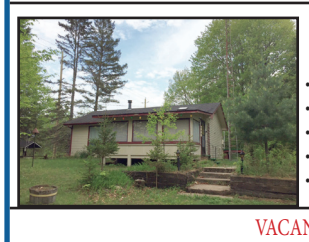

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# Poker run raises $1,300 for Community Living

Donations came rolling in for the first poker run for Community Living organized by the Haliburton Highlanders Riding Club on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The event included games, barbecue, ice cream and a ride across the countryside starting at the Victoria Street offices of Community Living.

Riders followed a route from Haliburton down County Road 1 and 121 to Kinmount, stopping at Furnace Falls. From there they travelled to Bancroft, stopping at the Shell station, then on to Y Road, Baptiste Lake Road and to Wilberforce for their third stop.

Club members said the route was about 200 kilometres in total, on "nice, scenic, good roads."

With the help of volunteers, they brought in $1,300 for Community Living Trent Highlands, with the money designated to stay in the community.

They thanked Classy Chassis, Tim Hortons, Foodland, Independent Grocer, Touch of Class, West Guilford Shopping Centre, Parker Pad and Printing and Paradigm Design as well as club members, Community Living volunteers and staff for making the event a success.

They intend to do it again next year, perhaps earlier in the season.

You can find out more about the club and their next event by following them on Facebook.

Members of the Haliburton Highlanders Riding Club stand with their bikes outside Community Living in Haliburton. The club ran its first poker run on Saturday, Aug. 25. The event raised $1,300 for Community Living Trent Highlands. /TIM TOFFLEMIRE Special to County Life

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# Back to school time!

**KATE BUTLER**
Special to *County Life*

Miss Robertson and her pupils stand outside the Moon School, which served families to the west of Haliburton. The school was established in 1871.

It seems like the last day of the school year was just yesterday, but this summer has just flown by and it's back to school time already! Though local students are currently concentrated at a relatively small number of schools, in the early days of the county, many one room schoolhouses dotted the landscape. Often, one particular family would push for a school to ensure that their children were educated and that other children in the community might also benefit. Such was the case with Thomas Moon and the school which was named for his family. This school, situated three miles west of Haliburton Village, was established in 1871.

It's hard for us to imagine the experiences of the schoolteachers who came to work at these places, such as Olive Robertson, who came to teach at the Moon School in 1908. Teaching was one of the few occupations open to women, which must have made it incredibly exciting and appealing. Many of the teachers who came to this area would have only been 17 or 18 years old and might never have been away from their families before. In some ways, they might have been rather similar to university students heading away to school for the first time, except these young women were about to have their conduct scrutinized in a way that is difficult for us to imagine today. They weren't permitted to live on their own and were expected to board with a "respectable" family, often one of the families whose children attended the school or perhaps with the local minister's family. A young teacher's comings and goings were watched to make sure that she was setting a good example for the children and if she decided to marry, she would actually have to leave her post. These teachers had minimal training. In fact, even up until the 1920s, a five week course might be all the training they'd receive and their classes might include students from age five up to nearly their own age. Students might have been absent for weeks at a time while helping on the farm or simply because of winter weather and long distances. Teachers must have needed to be resourceful, multi-tasking experts to keep everyone on track!

Looking at this photo of Miss Robertson and her students can't help but make one muse about their stories, their dreams and the lives they lived.

If you're interested in stories rooted in our local landscape and history, perhaps you might be interested in going back to school this September too! The Haliburton Highlands Museum, in partnership with Rural Rogues Productions, is presenting its second playwrights' course this autumn. Autumn is a great time to pick up a new skill, so why not learn the basics of writing for the stage and then watch your narratives come to life? Contact the museum for more details!

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# Fundraiser encourages creative expression

**DARREN LUM**
*County Life* Staff

Calling all artists and art lovers: A new fundraising initiative to benefit the Haliburton School of Art + Design's student bursary program is asking artists to get in touch with their creative side, which will not only help them, but strengthen the art scene in the Highlands.

Organized by the Art Squared Committee, the first ever Art Squared fundraising event is about inviting artists of all backgrounds to contribute a square painting (acrylic, oil, collage and encaustic, etc.), measuring 12-by-12 inches, or one square foot on canvas.

Paintings will be chosen at the Opening Night event held at the Dominion Hotel on Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets will be drawn to determine the order purchasers get to select paintings at the Finn Artists' Centre. There will be 10 to 15 tickets drawn at a time until all participants have been given a ticket.

The concept allows for a showcase of all artists, whether experienced or amateur, and gives art students assistance with furthering their education. Each square painting costs $100, which is less costly than original works tend to be. It's a win for art lovers and new art collectors.

Participants will return to the Dominion after selecting, to enjoy the evening. Any remaining works will be available for purchase by non-participating public on Saturday and Sunday (when painting prices are adjusted per committee determination). There is a preview showing at the Finn Artists' Centre, located at 15 Newcastle Street in Minden from Oct. 28 to Nov. 2.

Art Squared committee member Nancy Gosse invites artists of all backgrounds and varying experiences to contribute to the first ever Art Squared fundraiser for the Haliburton School of Art + Design Student Bursary Program. /DARREN LUM Staff

Art Squared committee member Nancy Gosse said the entire arts community wins.

"It's an opportunity to obtain artwork that is really great and the artist gets a chance to share that. You're also helping a scholarship fund that's going to send an artist for an opportunity to learn and grow ... all of those reasons are great reasons to be involved in this fundraiser," she said.

This concept was presented by the committee's co-chairperson Denise LeBlanc, who saw the fundraiser implemented in another studio and presented the idea to the committee late last year. The committee includes co-chairperson Dagmar Boettcher and members Gosse, Olga Chudnovski, Kareena Crofts, Holly Hutchison, Carole Finn and Deborah J. Reed.

Gosse has her piece ready and is in the process of finishing another.

It's something she never thought was possible before taking a few courses with Finn, who has opened her mind and heart to the possibilities of artistic expression after only dabbling in art on her own before.

"It just made me realize: this is fun. This is exciting. I was really taken aback by the talent that was there. That just needed some nurturing and opportunity to express it. So for me it's been really interesting and exciting to be part of a group of artists from beginner to seasoned professional and be able to learn from them and draw from them and get different perspectives. Just to absorb," she said.

Seeing what she is capable of producing on canvas has been an eye-opener for her.

"There's no wrong way to express ... whatever comes out of you is a unique expression. It's great to see it on canvas and to be able to share it with others," she said.

It wasn't a fluke that she tapped into her creative side since moving to the area two years ago for her partner, who came for work. The Highlands takes Gosse back home, in a way.

"It reminded me a lot of Newfoundland even though it doesn't have an ocean. The abundance of lakes and water. The natural environment. A little bit of that ruggedness," she said.

Gosse said the committee encourage senior high school students to submit their work.

Anyone from 16 years old are eligible. If you're under 20, entries must indicate age on the back of the work. The deadline to commit is Sept. 27 at 5 p.m. There is no limit to entries. Deliver the finished paintings to the Finn Artists' Centre by Oct. 27 before 5 p.m. For information on submission guidelines email Holly Hutchison (hollyhutchison@me.com).

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# Terry Fox Run needs a leader

This year, hundreds of thousands of people across Canada will lace up to participate in the annual Terry Fox Run scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 16. Now in its 38th year, the event's longevity is a testament to staying true to its roots: grassroots, volunteer-led, non-competitive, and family oriented.

We are still seeking a new volunteer to chair the Haliburton Terry Fox Run. In existence since 1982, Haliburton has hosted an annual Terry Fox Run and contributed more than $146,000 to cancer research. The Terry Fox Foundation will work closely with the volunteer chair and provide support, training, and materials to ensure the success of this year's run. It's not too late!

Thirty-eight years have passed since that cold April morning when Terry Fox set out on his Marathon of Hope on the easternmost edge of our nation. In the ensuing years, millions of Canadians have followed in his footsteps to forge a uniquely Canadian event. Our greatest strength is the extraordinary team of Terry Fox volunteers that span from coast to coast, a human chain linked by a common purpose – to make a positive difference in the fight against cancer. They also share many of the attributes Canadians hold most dear: they are dedicated and driven, helpful and humble and, above all, they are caring and compassionate.

If you are an enthusiastic and organized individual who possesses exceptional leadership skills, and passionate about making a difference in the world, contact us today and join the mission to change lives for the better every day. For more information please contact Kim Smith, Ontario community events coordinator at kim@terryfoxrun.org or 1-888-836-9786 ext. 227.

*-Submitted by Kim Smith*

# Training funding flows to Canoe FM

Canoe FM has received funding from the Community Radio Fund of Canada to assist with volunteer education.

In a press release issued earlier this week, the president of the radio fund announced $33,012 will be provided for a training specialist project at Haliburton's community radio station. The money comes through the Radiometres program, which is designated to assist with local programming and volunteer participation.

Over the years, Canoe FM has received $155,687 from Radiometres, representing six grants in total.

Volunteers will receive training on advertising sales and community commercials as well as how to input music into the station's music schedule program.

The Radiometres program has given out more than $12 million to campus and community radio stations.

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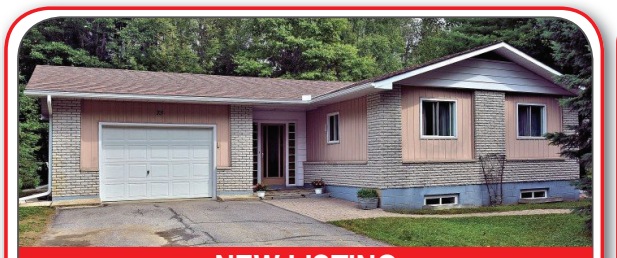

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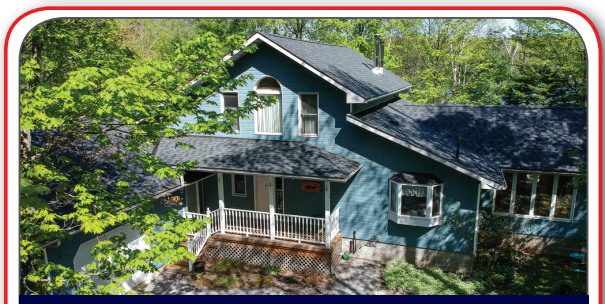

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County Life is produced by The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times, and published by White Pine Media Corp.

Audited circulation: 6,372 July 1 - Dec 31, 2015

## Top 10 places not to practice duck calling

NOW THAT AUTUMN is here, I think we all have one burning question on our minds – how do we get better with our duck calls? The answer, obviously, is to practice. You should practice every day and every chance you get. You should practice at work and in the company of friends – that way you can find out who your true friends actually are.

**STEVE GALEA**
Humour Columnist

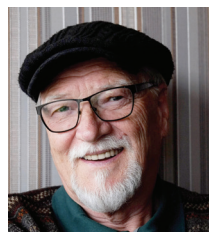
Yet, and this is the hard part to understand, there are also times and places where you probably should not practice with your duck calls. Trust me, these are lessons I have learned the hard way. With that in mind here are 10 places where you shouldn't practice duck calling.

1. In any stall of a public washroom: This is the primary place you should not practice duck calling – unless you want to meet paramedics.
2. When trying to hide from homicidal maniacs: I know most of us don't know many homicidal maniacs, but it's funny how they come out of the woodwork when you practice duck calling at 6 a.m.
3. Wedding ceremonies: Apparently, it draws too much attention away from the wedding party. Which is only natural, I mean what would you rather watch? A flock of circling mallards or the groom kissing the bride?
4. Fancy restaurants: This is why I never go near them.
5. The library: I know modern libraries no longer enforce a silence policy, but the ones I know still for some inexplicable reason cling onto their outdated no duck-calling policy.
6. When you are being pulled over: Unless you don't mind being told to repeatedly walk a straight line.
7. During a colonoscopy: Unless it's not yours.
8. While in the birthing room: Yes, I know it's every parent's dream to welcome their newborn to the world with the wonderful sounds of a mallard feeding chuckle, but sometimes the woman giving birth gets "cranky" when you are not helping her with "breathing," which – let me point out – is something she already knows how to do.
9. While others are trying to meditate: If you think people who are meditating are calm and gentle, try this. You'll soon find out differently.
10. When duck hunting. You should have already got your practicing done.

#BuyCloseBy

## Harcourt resident publishes latest book in series on living artists

BOOK DESIGNER and graphic artist Andrea Hillo is on a roll. She's rolling because she realizes that when one door closes another opens. The door that closed for her was losing the contract, in 2011, with the County of Haliburton Destination Guide, after six years of producing it. She told me that the door that subsequently opened was a revelatory visit to the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg. The visit triggered Hillo to think "about the countless artists that are living and paying their bills, and dedicating their lives to art for very little exposure and recognition."



**GEORGE FARRELL**
On Arts/Culture

"With all due respect," Hillo said, "the value of artists' works after their death doesn't pay the bills while they're living, and I wanted to try to help change that. After a few hours at the gallery, viewing Group of Seven artworks and scenes of Algonquin Park it was like a light went on and I couldn't wait to get back home, to start planning the concept of regional art books."

The result of that eureka moment has been an excellent series of art books on living artists. The first was *The Artists of Algonquin*, then came *The Artists of Muskoka*, followed by *The Artists of Haliburton Highlands*, and now her latest, *The Artists of Kawartha*. But to get to where she is, Hillo had to lay the groundwork.

"I first contacted Linda Sorensen, an artist I had been admiring in the Wilno area, and told her of my plan," said Hillo. "She was on board right away and excited about the idea. It was her reaction that got me excited, and within a few weeks, thanks to her help, I was in touch with Robert Bateman, who to my absolute wonder, agreed to help me with my book. That opened up so many doors for me."

Roy MacGregor, Mendelson Joe, Michael Dumas and Len Pizzey all have been instrumental in the art book series.

Pizzey is the previous editor and owner/publisher of the *Minden Times* and *Haliburton Echo* newspapers, who has been involved in community newspapers for 40 years.

"Len has been a mentor and good friend to me for about 20 years," Hillo said. "He has written the introduction to all four of the books, and edited the copy for all the books too. He has been a major supporter of my work, and he encourages me."

Michael Dumas, like Bateman, is highly respected in the Canadian art scene, and especially in the Kawartha area. His work is collected by various museums around the world, including those in England, the U.S., and Japan. His work is held by serious private collectors, and in major international and Canadian corporate collections.

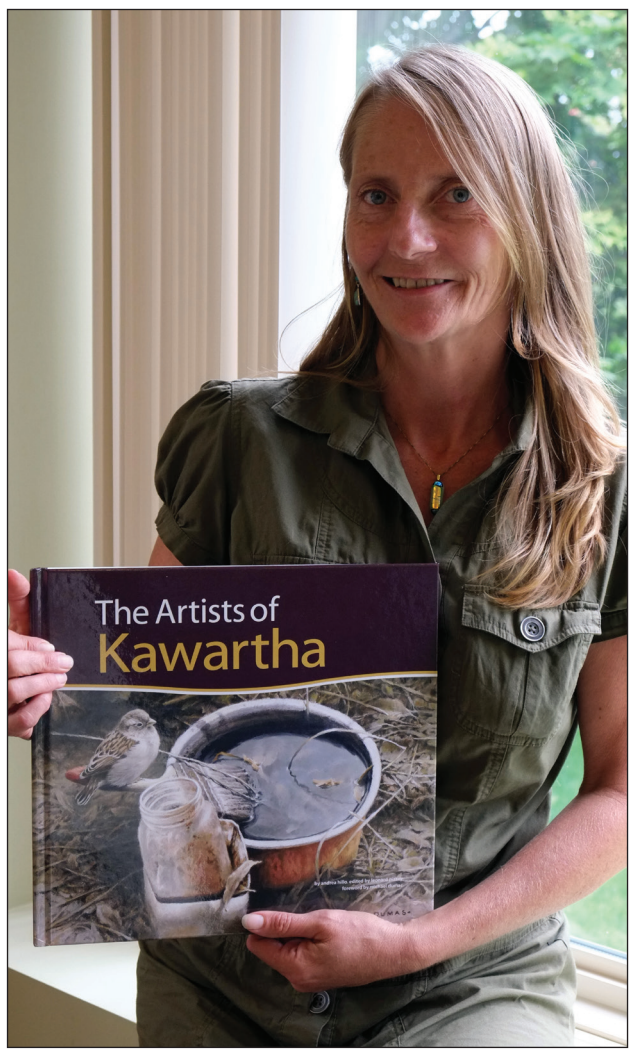
"Michael was a key element for *The Artists of Kawartha* book," said Hillo. "He wrote the foreword, contributed images for the front cover, and inside the book, and because of his involvement, attracted many of the artists. I would guess 75 per cent of the artists in the book wanted to be in it because Michael was involved. He and his wife Ellen really made this particular book what it is."

But things haven't always gone smoothly for Hillo. Her father Antero passed away before she started the Kawartha book, and it was hard for her to find her motivation again.

"He loved my art books," Hillo said. "He was an amazingly talented, artistic man, and I miss him so very much. It's been difficult not going through the book with him and getting advice. He was the greatest art director and dad ever. The book is dedicated to him."

*The Artists of Kawartha*, like the others in the series, is a handsome coffee table book, excellently presented, with crisp images and succinct artist statements. I was particularly taken by the work of Michael Dumas with his homage to sparrows and a wonderful portrait of an Officers boy; Henry Fernandes's colourful and wacky animation illustrations; Anne-Marie Kornachuk's portrayal of women, almost hidden by incredibly detailed reams of fabric; and Calvin Nicholls's remarkable paper sculptures of wildlife.

All of Hillo's art book series can be purchased at the Algonquin Visitors Centre book store, and online at www.theartistsbooks.com. *The Artists of Kawartha* retails for $36 and will be available in various retail locations in the future. For more information you can contact Andrea Hillo at hillodesign@gmail.com.




Andrea Hillo sits with her newest book, *The Artists of Kawartha*. It is a handsome addition to her series of coffee table books on the area's artists.

# Haliburton gearing up for Parkinson SuperWalk

Parkinson Canada, the definitive voice of the Parkinson community in Canada for over 50 years, is pleased to announce that the Parkinson Canada SuperWalk 2018 will take place from Sept. 8 through 16 in communities across Canada.

Residents from Haliburton will join over 10,000 participants and 4,000 fundraising walkers, by coming together at Head Lake Park on Sunday, Sept. 16.

SuperWalk has raised over $37 million since the first walk took place in 1990, launched by 15 volunteers who marched up Bathurst Street in Toronto.

"Events like Parkinson SuperWalk enable us to deliver much needed services within the community and fund research into improved treatments and one day, a cure," says Jon Collins, associate director, events and partnerships. "And this event is very inspiring to those living with Parkinson's and their families, when they see their friends and neighbours taking part in this special event, or supporting walkers with donations."

This year Charlie Muli, 71, will take part in Parkinson SuperWalk for the fourth time. Charlie has been living with Parkinson's for 13 years, and it has affected his life tremendously.

"I would get nothing done if it weren't for my wife Ethel. She does most of the domestic chores around the house. Things I took for granted now take twice as long."

However, through all the obstacles, Charlie continues to participate in SuperWalk each year. "We walk each year to raise awareness. The more people that get involved, the better it is."

To Charlie, the SuperWalk is also a chance to make beautiful memories. "We have some family members that come up to Haliburton and meet us for the walk. Because we are a smaller group, we celebrate with a potluck afterward. We invite anyone that walks with us to join. It is like a Parkinson's community potluck! We'll walk as far as we can, and then know we are having a nice lunch to come back to."

Parkinson's affects over 100,000 Canadians, a number expected to increase substantially in the coming years, with 25 Canadians diagnosed each day. That means that every hour, of every day, another Canadian hears the words: "You have Parkinson's disease."

For people newly diagnosed, Parkinson SuperWalk is a great opportunity to meet others living with the disease, their families, and begin to build a supportive network. It's a very hopeful event with people living with the disease participating.

Funds raised are invested in communities across Canada to provide services, education and advocacy for people affected by Parkinson's and for research into improving treatments and finding a cure.

Continued support is needed in order to fund research to find a cure.

Since 1981, the generosity of donors including SuperWalk supporters, has enabled Parkinson Canada to invest more than $27 million in 528 research projects.

"We want to thank SuperWalk participants who continue to raise significant funds and increase public awareness of our charity," says Joyce Gordon, CEO, Parkinson Canada. "These funds help us to greatly impact the lives of those living with Parkinson's, their caregivers and healthcare professionals, and offer hope for a future without Parkinson's. For these individuals, a cure can't wait."

You can join Charlie Muli and become an Everyday Hero, inspiring hope for Canadians living with Parkinson's as well as their families, caregivers and healthcare providers.

Take part in the walk or support someone who will be walking. Register today at www.ParkinsonSuperWalk.ca for a fun, family outing with a special purpose. Or call Jon Collins at 1-800-565-3000 ext. 3370 or email at jon.collins@parkinson.ca.

*-Submitted*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# Community urged to step up and speak out

The Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre, Fleming College and partner organizations are encouraging community members to step up, speak out and take a stand against sexual violence.

This candlelight vigil and walk, which will take place in Peterborough, Lindsay, Cobourg and Haliburton, welcomes survivors of sexual violence and harassment, their supporters and allies to join together in solidarity.

In the wake of local issues of sexual assault, online luring and sexual harassment, changes to campus policies on sexual violence and harassment, and recent high profile sexual assault trials, the centre and college welcome participants to join together to build a more healing and inclusive community.

The annual Take Back the Night event will take place starting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 20.

This free event includes a rally with speeches, musical performances, and spoken word poetry followed by the Light Your Way solidarity walk at 7:30 p.m.

Come early for pre-rally poster making, supplies available on site!

Share your voice and speak out!

## Locations

- Peterborough – Millennium Park (meet at Silver Bean Cafe), 130 King St.
- Lindsay – Victoria Park (meet at King St., west side of park), 207 Kent St W.
- Cobourg – "The Gathering Place" Monument, east side of Victoria Park, Cobourg.
- Haliburton – Head Lake Band Shell (enter from York St. suggested).

Get ready for Take Back the Night on the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, beginning with refreshments and information booths in the lobby at 6 p.m. with a screening of the film *A Better Man* to play at 6:30 p.m.

This film is for a 14+ audience. Following the screening, there will be a panel discussion with community social service providers to create a dialogue around the issue of sexual violence.

Childcare will be provided by Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre volunteers.

For more information, check out our Facebook events, the Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre website (www.kawarthasexualassaultcentre.com) or call the Centre at 705-748- 5901.

*- Submitted*

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## As sweet as honey

Above, seven-year-old Danny Neville flattens out the top of his honey pot at Abbey Gardens on Aug. 30. Seven children participated in an afternoon pottery workshop. Once complete, their pieces were going to be fired up in a kiln.

Left, local potter Lisa Barry instructs a workshop for kids on how to make a honey pot out of clay at Abbey Gardens on Aug. 30. The not-for-profit organization was hosting honey-themed activities all week, including workshops.
/ANGELICA INGRAM Staff

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**Missed The Concert??? Tom Allen and the gang are coming back!!**

Highlands summer festival 2018 Live Theatre

As most of you are aware, our Thursday, July 26th presentation of Tom Allen's "From Weimar to Vaudeville" had to be cancelled due to the wide-spread power outage in the Haliburton area. We really wanted to schedule a matinee make-up performance, but scheduling and contractual issues are going to preclude that from happening.

***However, we are bringing back Tom Allen and his crew for a make-up performance of***

**"From Weimar to Vaudeville"**

**7:30 p.m. Saturday, September 8, 2018**

**at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion**

So, if you are holding tickets for the performance that was cancelled, or if you would just like to see the show again, (or for the first time), please contact Jim at the Highlands Summer Festival Box Office (705) 457-9933 to arrange for your tickets for September 8th.

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# Gallagher blooms with garden writing award

**SUE TIFFIN**
*County Life* Staff

Even before you get out of your car in the driveway of Belinda Gallagher's Tory Hill home, you know you are about to experience the sights and sounds and smells and even the tastes – if she insists you sample a tomato or an edible petal – of a garden like no other. The air is filled with hummingbirds, dragonflies, bees, making use of the fruits – or flora – of Gallagher's efforts, and the fragrance is one that will stick with you long after you've left, that is, if she has instructed you to run your hands along an aromatic budding flower.

Gallagher knows gardens. She's a master gardener emeritus, the former head of horticulture at the Royal Botanical Gardens that borders Hamilton and Burlington, a horticultural lecturer and an instructor at the University of Guelph and a well-known garden writer.

Just last month she was recognized as a top professional horticultural communicator by GWA: The Association for Garden Communicators with a silver medal of achievement for her magazine article, "Can We Embrace the New Natural Garden," which was published in *Garden Making* magazine's summer 2017 issue.

Gallagher has in the past won the same award for her newspaper column, Gardening in the Wild, which she writes for the *Haliburton Echo* and *County Life*.

In her articles and columns, Gallagher likes to tell stories that are often inspired by her own gardens and that include research and something for gardeners to focus on. Her most recent award-winning article was written about the "new natural," or "new native" movement of gardening.

"It's the idea of planting plants as ecosystems rather than planting plants because they're tall, short, fat, ugly, striped, whatever," she said. "It's not new because we plant as ecosystems once you know plants, just in general ... Part of it is accepting and embracing the beauty of our native plants. But their design, you would need to know way more about plants than a normal gardener would ever know in order to choose the plants wisely. It would be more a thing for maybe landscapers or trained horticulturists, I guess. How they grow, how they interact with the mycorrhiza, the fungal spores in the soil, which ones have roots that layer at the top versus tap roots so you can plant some closer together than others, plant tendencies and all the rest. It's a new way of talking about doing borders, integrating plants into the same system ... In old design it would be, oh, I want all hostas in this bed, but with the new movement, it's, what do I integrate together to have an interesting tapestry of colours and textures."

"Or," she laughs, "you can just plant like me, you know; here's a spot, here's a plant. Experimental."

Gallagher has early memories of being around gardens in Nevada, where she grew up.

Belinda Gallagher strolls through her gardens in Tory Hill. Gallagher, a writer, was awarded a silver medal of achievement for an article she wrote for *Garden Making* magazine. She also writes for the *Echo* and *County Life*. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

"My mom grew irises," she said. "They grow amazingly well at the edge of the desert. Phenomenally. You'd never think. I remember iris being the sort of plant that really struck me. I also remember always enjoying the mud around the vegetable garden. That was interesting because in old home movies you see me in the mud."

A sort of enchanted forest between her grandmother and auntie's house struck Gallagher as well.

"You know how they say scent memory is a real trigger?" she said. "That smell, which you can occasionally get in the woods up here, just drags me back to that time. I think that was that first acknowledgement of that kind of being a special space, around green."

In university, Gallagher became interested in house plants, which started what she will sometimes – in her more honest moments, she said – admit to being an addiction to collecting plants. She then worked as a florist in London, England, where she said everybody has flowers in their home.

"It's a big deal, like people would have coffee [here], go to Tim's. [There] people go to the flower shop and buy little plants or flowers, every week," she said. "It's the most amazing thing."

Back in Canada, she discovered that much of what she was using in floral displays there, were things that could be grown here.

"We have a remarkably interesting climate because we have winter," she said. "So there's a lot of plant perennials that

**see page 13**

## EH! Environment Haliburton!

For more than a decade, Environment Haliburton! has been working to advocate and support environmental protection and conservation across Haliburton County. The municipal election on October 22, 2018 represents a unique opportunity for us as citizens to elect responsible government that takes stewardship of the natural environment in the County seriously.

Where do the candidates stand on pressing environmental challenges, such as:
-climate change?
-waste management?
-shoreline preservation?

Over the coming weeks, follow this space in County Life, as we share the questions we're asking would-be Mayors, Deputy Mayors, and Councillors. Survey results will be posted to the Environment Haliburton! website www.environmenthaliburton.org/ mid-September.

Ryan Sisson, President, Environment Haliburton!

## ALL CANDIDATES MEETINGS

Come out to meet candidates in the upcoming municipal election, hear what they have to say and ask your questions.

Algonquin Highlands (Wards 1&3):
Thursday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m.,
Dorset Recreation Centre

Highlands East: Thursday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m.,
Lloyd Watson Centre, Wilberforce

Minden Hills: Thursday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.,
Minden Hills Community Centre

Dysart et al: Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m.,
Fleming College, Haliburton

Mayors and Deputy Mayors (countywide):
Thursday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.,
Fleming College, Haliburton

Meetings organized by the county's newspapers and radio stations.

# Gallagher embraces learning about gardening in the Highlands

**from page 12**

don't grow anywhere that doesn't have proper winter. And that intrigued me, and then I started growing plants from seed and it just went out of hand after that."

In Georgetown, where she lived for many years, Gallagher opened her own small company growing specialty perennials and unusual native plants that most people weren't growing. Her client list included about 1,000 people who would come to visit from places as far away as New York or Ottawa or Montreal in the five days a year her shop was open.

"I got into ornamental grasses, all the Rudbeckia family, but I was also growing stuff from other parts of the world that liked the same climate to see what would succeed," she said. "Being a collector more than anything else, a plant collector. And then it just blossomed."

She does not make note of the pun.

She became a master gardener, booked speaking engagements, and worked as the head of horticulture managing 250 acres of cultivated gardens at the Royal Botanical Gardens. She then helped to develop a new certificate program on sustainable urban horticulture with the University of Guelph, where she still teaches online classes to people who range in age up to 80 years old or so.

One of those courses delves into naturalizing urban gardens, an interest of Gallagher's.

"That's taking any urban green space and getting away from doing rows of marigolds to more natural-looking environments so that it would look more wild, but also it would take care of itself a little bit better, a more sustainable kind of environment," she said. "It also talks about taking degraded sites that might have had a building on it or whatever, vacant lots, and making them productive. ... Having the kinds of environment that will take care of itself. One of the biggest problems in maintaining green spaces is that when the 'hand of man, or woman' leaves, what then happens to the space? With particularly strongly manicured spaces, in no time flat they become weedy and wild. But if you plan right and plant the right things, as they take over it looks more and more natural, more meadow like or more forest like."

Gallagher is changing her own garden, filled with native non-invasive plant species, vegetables, and the occasional experiment from a far away land, to be more sustainable so that it can adapt to her changing needs as she ages. She believes gardening is a possibility at any age, but what it looks like can change with the gardener and how they're feeling.

"You change the garden to suit your time," she said. "That happens too; people will gravitate towards vegetables at certain times in their lives. Vegetable gardens are a huge amount of work."

At times she becomes frustrated when there is a lack of appreciation or knowledge of horticulture – the generation of the manicured lawn, that wildness isn't always accepted, the lack of balance in prioritizing green spaces in cities, the loss of learning in schools.

"I think that's a huge mistake," she said of the move away from horticultural education at early ages. "At the end of the day, people need to be able to know how to grow their own food. They need to understand some basic things about how plants work, if for no other reason than to protect them."

In her writing and in speaking engagements, she attempts to encourage people to think about their plant choices and consider the long-term impact of invasive plants.

She does see glimmers of hope – in a recent in-depth article in the *Washington Post* about unfilled horticultural graduate positions, in her students going on to what she called, "really nice work," including significant community gardening projects, and to the younger generation focusing on getting their kids outdoors.

"I think that long-term, we need to have that love of plants back in our lives. We can't live without plants. Plants can live just handily without people. But we can't live without them. It's not just the air we breathe, it's medicine and building materials and clothing and cleaning our water. So many things, that people need to appreciate the green around us."

The first exercise she has her students do in class is tell two stories: a story about themselves and a plant, and a story told to them about a plant from a friend or relative or neighbour.

"What it does to the class is takes all these people from sometimes all over the world and brings them together as a group, because they've shared these stories and there's common threads in the stories," she said. "A lot of them are about food. If their folks or relatives are from Europe … a grapevine or Grandpa's pepper. That's a really interesting story that people will identify that kind of thing."

For Gallagher, she recalls her mother collecting seed from friends and spreading it over an area with less than desirable soil.

"I remember after a certain number of years, being in university and going back and seeing this spot just ablaze with black-eyed Susans," she said. "For me, a black-eyed Susan always makes me smile and think of her. It always does."

But she does have a favourite, herself.

"…which is unusual because I grow so many," she said. "It's Solomon's seal. It's an interesting plant because it's what they call circumpolar – different species of it grow in this latitude but around the globe. So there are Solomon's seals in Asia, and here, and in Europe."

She leads the way to a more shaded part of the garden where Solomon's seal is a-plenty.

"In the spring it has little white flowers that hang from these little stems," she points out. "I love the arching habit of it. I love the way it grows in fairly deep shade, lots of roots, nothing seems to eat it, bugs don't bother it, and you can get everything from this tall variety to this little short variety here. It gets flowers, but it's just a little plant. I think its tough nature, and its graceful habit ... in the fall, if we don't get snow, but we get a good frost, it will go pale yellow and just have that same arching look to it which is just so beautiful."

She's interrupted in her admiration by the movement of a long, thin garter snake.

"That's the first garter snake I've seen all season," she said. "Isn't he pretty? Oh, you're a beauty. I grew up where all the snakes are poisonous, so for years, I was so afraid of them. I would be in the house now. I hit 50, and said, Jiminy Cricket, Belinda, you can't live like this. I couldn't look at a picture in a book without – my heart would race. I'd sweat, everything. So I taught myself to love them."

Gallagher has taught herself well. Her garden is alive with so much to see, that even she is still noticing little bits of colour in flowers of plants she has been nurturing.

But she embraces learning, in growing and collecting and caring for a garden that circles her home in an embrace.

"I love gardening here, in Haliburton," she said. "Part of the really great thing is that we get good snow cover, usually, when it's really cold. And we have really good drainage with the gravely sandy soil, which is why I can grow plants from Africa, and the Mediterranean – some really unusual plants – because they're not overly fond of the winters, but they never have that clay soil, wet muck stuff, around them, so they can always breathe. ... it's really enjoyable to garden in an area like this, because it makes me be mindful always of the natural wild around. It does make you think differently about what you put in your garden. I love walking in our woods and seeing trilliums and all of our lovely woodland wildflowers, and I wouldn't want to hurt that environment for anything, so, I have to learn."

Gallagher's column runs in *County Life* on long weekends, and in the *Haliburton Echo* during the winter.

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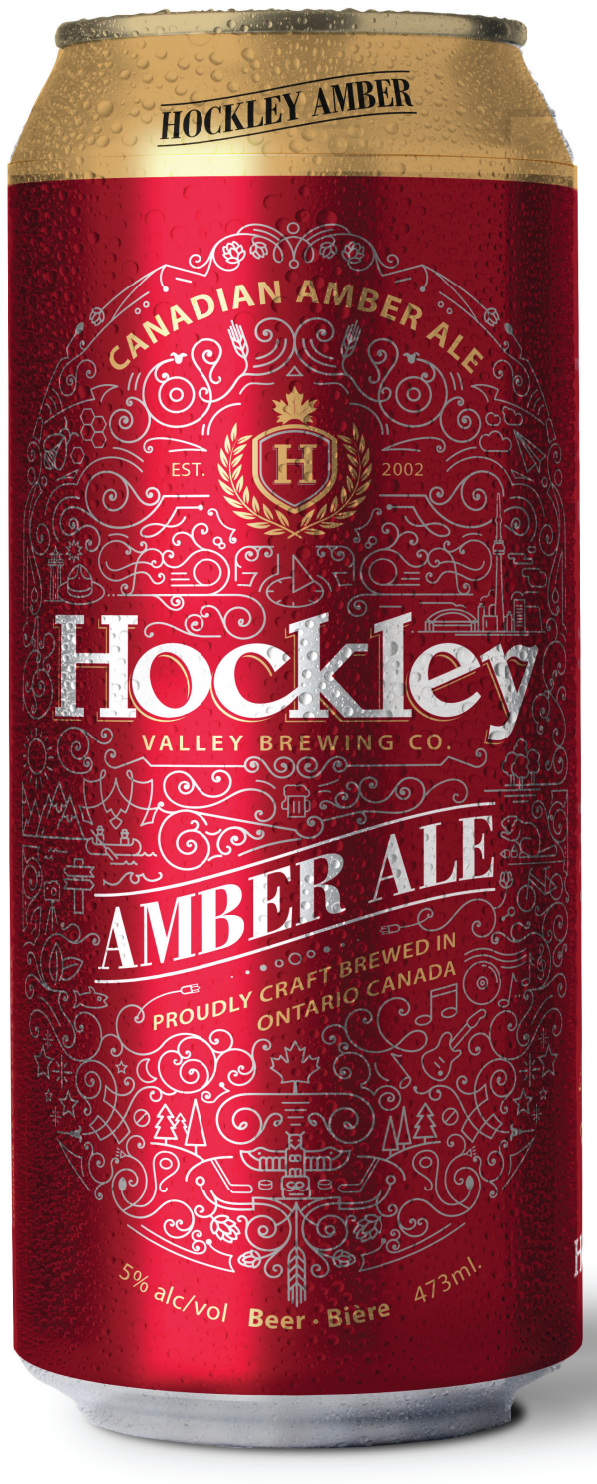


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## Daycare graduates celebrate milestone

Family, staff, and children of the Compass Early Learning and Care program in Minden celebrated daycare graduation on Aug. 24. Cupcakes, diplomas and letters from daycare educators were given to kids who will "graduate" from daycare into school this September. The daycare centre offers full-time, part-time and before and after school programs. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Brynnley Hughes and Ewelina Porzuczek graduated from the Compass Early Learning and Care program last month and celebrated by decorating cupcakes.

Beau Harding, who will graduate from daycare into school next month, holds his diploma while checking out the letters from daycare educators cheering the kids on into their next adventure.

Graduates of the Compass Early Learning and Care program in Minden joined their family and daycare centre staff for a ceremony that included cupcake decorating.

Mason accepts his diploma acknowledging his graduation from daycare to kindergarten from daycare teacher, Sabrina Gollop.

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# UPCOMING Community Events

PARISH HOME INSPECTIONS

**Want to get your event in Community Calendar? It's free! Contact Pat at classifieds@haliburtonpress.com.**

## Upcoming Events

**Haliburton County Studio Tour - Preview show**
When: Sept. 1 to Sept. 15 during the gallery hours Wed to Sun from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Finn Artists' Gallery
This is an opportunity for people to see what the tour has to offer and showcase local artists.

**Remembering Stuart**
When: Friday, Sept. 7 at 8 p.m.
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, HHSS.
Remembering Stuart McLean with John Sheard, former music director of The Vinyl Cafe, and The Brilliant Band
Tickets $25 advance or $30 at the door. Available at The Source, Organic Times and www.haliburtonfolk.com.

**Haliburton: No-Family Doctor Immunization Clinic**
When: Wednesday, Sept. 12
Where: Health Unit office (191 Highland St, Unit 301) in Haliburton.
Free immunization clinics for families without a doctor. To book an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 1507.

**Haliburton: Sexual Health Clinic**
When: Wednesday, Sept. 12, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

**Parkinson SuperWalk Haliburton**
When: Sunday, Sept. 16
Registration 10:30 a.m., walk starts 11 a.m.
Where: the Band Shell, Head Lake Park, Haliburton
What: SuperWalk to raise funds for Parkinson's
For more info contact Rosie at 705-754-1661

**Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group**
When: Wed. Sept. 19
Doors open 6 p.m.; speaker 7 p.m.
Where: Lions Hall, 166 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden
What: Guy Scott presents one-room schoolhouses of Haliburton County
Cost: No charge, everyone welcome
For more info contact Gail 705-286-2225

**Discover the Dahl**
When: Saturday, Sept. 22
Where: Dahl Forest, 1307 Geeza Rd
Part of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Discovery Days 2018
Learn the history and ecology of the Dahl Forest from expert, Peter Dahl. Peter and his family planted thousands of trees, cared for the land, and then generously donated it to the HHLT in 2009. Walk the beautiful trails and enjoy views of the Burnt River as it meanders through the forest. Feel free to pack a picnic to enjoy on your own after the hike. This hike is part of the Hike Haliburton Festival. Please visit their website to register, or visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca for details and a registration link. Admission by donation. Funded in part by TD Friends of the environment.

## Recurring Events

**Pickleball**
When: Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Where: S.G. Nesbitt Community Centre, Minden
Racquets are provided so all you need are clean indoor shoes. Cost is $2
Contact: Elisha Weiss, Community Development Coordinator, 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

**Table Tennis**
When: Monday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.


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Where: S.G. Nesbitt Community Centre, Minden
Cost is $3
Contact: Elisha Weiss, Community Development Coordinator, 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

### Bid Euchre
When: Thursday, and every third Sunday, afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m.
Where: S.G. Nesbitt Community Centre, Minden
Cost is $3 on Thursdays and $8 on Sundays
Contact: Elisha Weiss, Community Development Coordinator, 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca.

### Rails End Community Drum Circle
Every Wednesday 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre
23 York St., in Haliburton's landmark rail station

### Rails End Knitting Circle
First Friday of every month 1 to 4 p.m.
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### Rails End Uke Jam
Alternate Thursdays (call for dates 705-457-2330)
Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre
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### Kinmount Library
The Friends of the Library group have a monthly book sale at the Kinmount Library the third Saturday of every month.

### Morning Glories
When: Tuesday and Friday 8:30 a.m.
Where: Upstairs in the Haliburton Arena
Contact: Jane Jaycock 705-754-9996 or jjaycock@hotmail.com
Exercises for cardio, strength training, balance and flexibility.

## Legion Events

### Branch 636 Minden
**Monday – Thursday** Lunch 12 to 2 p.m.
**Tuesday** Special liver day, regular menu also.
**Friday** 12 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., Fish, Chicken Wings, Fries and Onion Rings.
**Daily events:**
**Monday** 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Haliburton Highlands Rug Hookers. (every two weeks)
**Tuesday** 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Senior art group. 1 to 4 p.m., Bid Euchre,
**Wednesday** 12 – Meat Draws, 4 butcher quality meats for $1 a ticket. 1 to 4 p.m., Ladies Darts, 5 to 7 p.m. Calorie Counters.
**Thursday** 7 p.m. Darts. 7 p.m. Euchre
**Friday** Every second week, Karaoke with Fred and Linda, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.
**Saturday** Special Lunch every week with meat Draw at 1 p.m.
**Sunday** Sports Day 12 to 4:30 p.m.

### Branch 624, Wilberforce
**Friday** Ham & Scalloped potatoes 5-7p.m.
**Saturday** Meat Draw- Early Bird-3p.m. Still need help to sell tickets please
Music & Barbecue on the deck
**Monday** Bid euchre 7 p.m. Beginners welcome
**Tuesday** General meeting 7 p.m.
**Wednesday** Fun Darts 7:30 p.m.
Everyone welcome.
**Thursday** Community Care Seniors program 10-2p.m.
We still need Executive members to help out. Want to get involved? Please let myself 705-727-2417 or the legion 705-448-2221 know if you can help.

### Branch 129, Haliburton
Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571

| | |
|---|---|
| **Mondays**: | Bridge every Monday at 1 p.m. |
| **Tuesdays**: | Tuesday Night Dart League starting at 7pm |
| **Wednesdays**: | Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start<br>Bingo Doors open at 6 p.m.<br>Bingo starts at 7 p.m. - $500 Jackpot, $1,000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month. |
| **Thursdays**: | General Meeting third Thursday of the month, Mar through Dec., starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. |
| **Fridays**: | Cribbage 1 p.m. start,<br>Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw - 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw.<br>Chester Howse, MC<br>Friday fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards |
| **Saturdays**: | 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards |
| **Sundays**: | Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. $6 per person. |

Occasional volunteers are needed. Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at (705) 457-2571, email rcl129@bellnet.ca or visit haliburtonlegion.com Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129. Everyone is welcome!

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## Board backs 24 hour/7 day emergency

by Andrew Milne

The Minden Hospital should remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for the rest of the fiscal year, says one local group consulted on the decision.

The Acting Health Services Board, the local board struck to take over administration of the hospitals in Minden and Haliburton, arrived at their decision at their regular meeting, October 11.

Said board member Barbara Dawson, "What happens if the staff are let go, and the facilities are closed down — what is there left for us to build on?"

St. Joseph's Hospital and Health Centre of Peterborough, which is currently responsible for the Minden and Haliburton hospitals, had announced in late September that it was considering cutting Minden's emergency ward altogether, effective as of the beginning of October, and running an eight-hour a day clinic in the building with the remainder of the tiny hospital's operating budget.

The Ministry of Health (MOH), however, told St. Joseph's it could not make so drastic a change in service without first consulting with the community (including the AHSB and St. Joseph's own Community Advisory Council), and submitting a revised operating plan regarding service after the end of October to the MOH. St. Joseph's has been permitted to reduce service to 16 hours a day in the meantime, and the Minden hospital has been closed between midnight and 8 a.m. since October 1. It is expected to draft the revised operating plan later this month.

St. Joseph's says the Minden facility's budget is approximately two-thirds gone, halfway through the fiscal year, due to the expense of coping with a critical shortage of doctors to staff the small hospital's wards. The in-patient ward was closed in April, and the hospital has been paying doctors to come from other communities to staff the emergency ward.

*(more on page 4)*

## Peace Garden planted at Ridgewood

While the students and staff of Ridgewood Public School look on, the first tulip bulbs of the school's "Peace Garden" were planted. The garden, one of 200 across the country, marks the 50th anniversary of the end of World War Two and the special bond between the Netherlands and Canada. More photos on page 20.

by Jerry Grozelle

The ceremonial planting of a Dutch Tulip Celebration Garden was held at Ridgewood Public School in Coboconk. The entire school participated in the dedication ceremony on the cool, misty morning of October 11.

Ridgewood's garden is one of 200 being planted across Canada this fall as living symbols of the bond of friendship that exists between Canada and the Netherlands. The "peace" gardens commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first gift of 100,000 tulips from Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, thanking Canadians for hosting the Dutch Royal Family during World War II and for Canada's role in the liberation of Holland.

Boni Featherstone, a Grade 6 teacher at Ridgewood, entered a contest in *Canadian Living* magazine in June. The contest involved writing an essay, and hers was one of the top 200 entries which were awarded packages of 400 tulip bulbs.

The Coboconk Royal Canadian Legion Colour Guard led the students and their guests to the garden from the school's gym.

Grade 8 students Ryan Reed and Eric Logan raised the Canadian and Dutch flags on the school flagpole while the students sang "God Save the Queen".

Visiting dignitaries included MP John O'Reilly, Bexley deputy-reeve Dan Glen and Victoria County director of education Dr. Dianne Dalton, each of whom planted a tulip bulb in the garden. Members of the student council (Nick Cameron, Amanda Angiers, Cory Bassett, and Christine Bryant); representatives of the Grade 1 classes; the school's secretarial staff; the custodial staff; educational assistants; the Legion Colour Party; Ridgewood principal Brian Hough; and members of the press also participated in the planting ceremonies.

During the ceremonial planting, Debbie Fogwell led a choir of Grades 4,5 and 6 students in the singing of "If I Could Have One Wish (It Would Be For Peace)."

Featherstone's Grade 6 class dug the garden; principal Brian Hough purchased the topsoil and donated it for the garden, Paul Featherstone (Boni's husband) implemented the design, which was provided by Keukenhof Gardens of Holland and Sharon Chambers organized the reception that followed the dedication ceremonies.

Boni Featherstone co-ordinated the event and acted as master of ceremonies.

"May our garden serve as a reminder to us of the importance of international co-operation and may it always bloom in a land of peace," she said.

The planting of the "peace" garden complements the Ridgewood environmental plan, which is to naturalize the school grounds by planting indigenous trees and wild flowers and attracting wild birds with feeders.

## No Bush here: business conference cancelled

by Jerry Grozelle

Anne Larcade, director of operations and president of PineStone Resort and Conference Centre said she is disappointed that the Business Vision: 2000 and Beyond Conference was cancelled. The conference was slated for October 13 to 15 at PineStone and a number of experts in the world of business were scheduled to speak. Most notable of the speakers was former U.S. president George Bush.

Larcade said the decision to cancel the conference was made late Thursday afternoon by Stonequest Management, the promoters of the event. She said they were forced to cancel "due to a lack of delegate participation."

"The numbers just weren't sufficient to ensure the success of the conference," she said. "With the type of conference we were planning, the integrity was very important."

Larcade said the event would have been a great boost for Pinestone.

"We're disappointed, however, it was a wonderful sales blitz for PineStone at the same time and there are over 9,000 corporations in Canada and the U.S. that know of PineStone now. The media response we've had was tremendous. It was actually quite positive for PineStone in terms of the exposure."

She said that other corporate clients were checking in Sunday.

"Everyone has been extremely supportive and hope that at another time they'll have the opportunity to see PineStone through a similar capacity," Larcade said. "We're business people. We go on."

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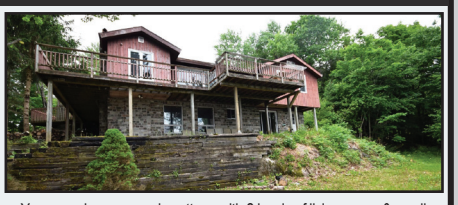

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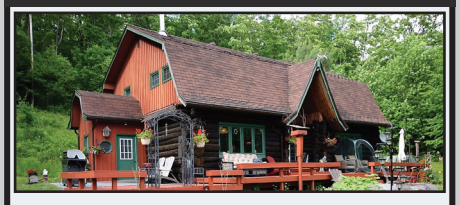

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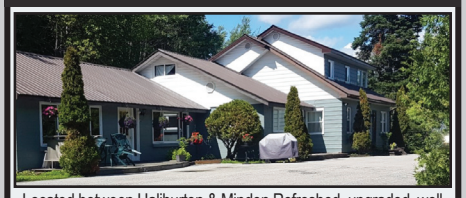

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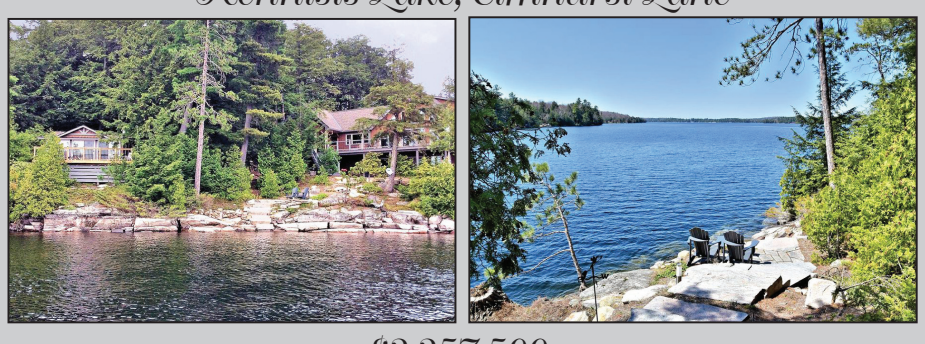

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